(e) The closure of branches will not results in termination of services of any employee. The employees rendered surplus on account of the closure will be gainfully deployed in bank,s other branches.

Assistance to SSIs for obtaining ISO-9001 Certificates

3286. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance is provided by IDBI/World Bank to Small Scale Industries for obtaining ISO-9001 Series Certificates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any interest reduction on advances is allowed to SSI units which obtain ISO-9001 certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) had introduced in September 1994 a scheme for direct financial assistance to small scale industrial (SSI) units for acquisition of ISO-9000 series certificates in order to help SSI units to compete in the international market and increase their exports. SIDBI has sanctioned assistance aggregating Rs. 53.14 lakhs to 11 SSI units under the scheme.

(c) SIDBI has reported that assistance under the ISO scheme is provided at a rate of interest of 14.5% per annum.

Rate of interest on Saving Banks Accounts

3287. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rate of interest on the saving banks account and on the fixed deposits as on and how it compare in the preceding three years on the same date;

(b) whether there is any proposal to raise the rate of interest on the savings bank account keeping the rate of inflation in view; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The table below given the present interest rate for savings bank accounts and domestic term deposit accounts:

(Per Cent Per Annum)

Interest Rate Applicable	Savings Deposits	Terms Deposits of 46 days to 3 years and above
At present effective April 18, 1995	4.5	Not exceeding 12.0
March 1995	4.5	Not exceeding 11.0
March 1994	5.0	Not exceeding 10.0
March 1993	6.0	Not exceeding 11.0
March 1992	5.0	46 days to less than 1 year 11.0 1 year to less than 3 years 12.0 3 years and above 13.0